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Attachment to Z-15826/82

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NPIC/IEG (8/82)  
20 AUGUST 1982**FIRST OPERATIONAL DEPLOYMENT OF HALO A  
AND AIRFIELD UPGRADING  
TORZHOK AIRFIELD USSR**

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1. (SWN) **SIGNIFICANCE:** THE INTRODUCTION OF HALO A INTO OPERATIONAL HELICOPTER TRANSPORT UNITS SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASES SOVIET HELICOPTER HEAVY-LIFT CAPABILITY.

2. (SWN) **REMARKS:** HALO A WERE OBSERVED OPERATIONALLY DEPLOYED FOR THE FIRST TIME AT TORZHOK AIRFIELD ON IMAGERY  
THREE CAMOUFLAGE-PAINTED HALO A WERE PRESENT IN ADDITION TO NINE HOOK (FIVE NOT ON GRAPHIC) AND 14 HIP (13 NOT ON GRAPHIC). THE HALO A IS THE LATEST MIL-DESIGNED HEAVY-LIFT HELICOPTER AND HAS BEEN IN PRODUCTION SINCE LATE 1980. IN ADDITION, SIGNIFICANT AIRFIELD UPGRADING INCLUDED THE CONSTRUCTION OF TWO CONCRETE RUNWAYS, ONE 527 BY 33 METERS AND ONE 522 BY 32 METERS, AND A HELICOPTER DISPERSAL AREA.

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(SWN) TORZHOK AIRFIELD IS IN THE MOSCOW MILITARY DISTRICT AND SUPPORTS A TRANSPORT HELICOPTER REGIMENT AND ELEMENTS OF AN ATTACK HELICOPTER REGIMENT.

(SWN) ANALYST'S COMMENTS: HALO A, THE LARGEST HELICOPTER EVER SERIES-PRODUCED, IS CAPABLE OF LIFTING APPROXIMATELY 44,000 POUNDS AND HAS A RANGE OF APPROXIMATELY 800 KILOMETERS. IT HAS TWICE THE CARGO VOLUME AND THREE TIMES THE PAYLOAD-RANGE OF THE HOOK AND A CARGO BAY AREA SIMILAR TO THE C-130 TRANSPORT. THE OPERATIONAL DEPLOYMENT OF THIS HELICOPTER OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS AS A REPLACEMENT FOR THE HOOK WILL ENHANCE THE SOVIET UNION'S HEAVY-LIFT TRANSPORT HELICOPTER CAPABILITY.

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3. COORDINATES 57-02-42N 035-00-07E

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